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A METHOD TO ANALYZE A PROPOSED VENTURE TRANSACTION

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

5 1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a method to analyze a proposed venture transaction between at least two entities. The method facilitates prediction of the information capabilities of an entity formed according to the proposed venture transaction.

2. Background Art

A venture transaction generally refers to a transaction where two or more existing entities form a new entity. Commonly, the venture transaction is a merger, an acquisition, a joint venture, or a divestiture.

The object of the venture transaction is to achieve a desired benefit. Information technology (IT) capabilities of the newly formed entity are a factor in the achieving the desired benefit. Insufficient IT capabilities can lead to business interruptions, hardware and software incompatibilities, violations of third party software license agreements, loss of intellectual property, and inappropriate sharing of data. Accordingly, there exists a need to provide a method to predict the IT capabilities of the newly formed entity.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The need identified above is addressed by the present invention. The present invention provides a method

for use with a computerized system. The method analyzes a proposed venture transaction to predict information technology (IT) capabilities of a new entity formed in accordance with the proposed venture transaction.

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The analysis method comprises collecting data regarding IT capabilities. The data is collected from two or more entities which are to form the new entity. The collected data is analyzed to determine which IT capabilities from the two entities are to comprise the IT capabilities of the new entity. For example, the analysis determines whether the new entity will include IT capabilities from one or both of the entities. The analysis relies upon a number of electronically accessible documents. The documents are required to provide instructions to facilitate the analysis.

One aspect of the analysis method relates to recommending whether to proceed with the proposed venture transaction. The recommendation is made based upon the analysis determination of the IT capabilities of the new entity. Preferably, the recommendation the IT capabilities are safe and legal and the IT capabilities are sufficient to prevent software incompatibilities at day-one. The electronically accessible documents facilitate making such a recommendation.

One aspect of the method relates to recommending an implementation plan. The implementation plan can be used in transferring the IT capabilities of each entity which are to comprise the IT capabilities of the new entity. The implementation plan is recommended only after recommending to proceed with the proposed venture transaction and in accordance with analysis instructions provided in an implementation document electronically maintained in the computerized system.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 illustrates a computer-implemented system;

Figure 2 illustrates a flowchart to facilitate analyzing a proposed venture transaction;

Figure 3 illustrates a pre-preparation document;

Figure 4 illustrates a file folder arrangement;

Figure 5 illustrates a selection of a folder in

10 the file folder arrangement shown in Figure 4;

Figure 6 illustrates a complete preparation document;

Figure 7 illustrates an established transition services in a security document;

Figure 8 illustrates a negotiate binding agreement document;

Figure 9 illustrates an implementation plan document; and

Figure 10 illustrates a feedback process improvement document.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT(S)

two or more entities form a new entity. The venture transaction relates to a number of events, including a merger, acquisition, joint venture, divestiture, and others. The present invention generally relates to these and other venture transaction and the need of predicting the information technology (IT) capabilities of the new entity. Preferably, such prediction minimizes problems arising with the IT capabilities of the new entity being incompatible or failing to be safe and legal.

In a merger, for example, IT capabilities from company A may merge with IT capabilities from company B. The new entity, may included IT capabilities from one or both of the IT capabilities of entities A and B. The IT capabilities of company A and B should be taken into account in analyzing a proposed venture transaction (merger). This can help insure against the loss of IT capabilities after the proposed venture transaction takes effect. The process of the present invention is adaptable to any combination of IT capabilities that may result from the merger or other venture transaction. In other words, the present invention is adoptable to the new entity including IT services from both company A and B, from only A, and from only B.

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The IT capabilities of a business generally encompass the study, application, and processing of data. The studying, processing, and application of such data can comprise automatic acquisition, storage, manipulation, transformation, management, movement, control, display, switching, interchange, transmission or reception of the data. In addition, the data can be developed and used within various hardwares, softwares, firmwares, and other processes. To minimize the loss of these IT capabilities, a number of IT operations need to be evaluated for losses of business services or assets during the venture transaction. Such areas include the loss of IT capabilities due to violations of third party software license agreements, loss of intellectual property, inappropriate sharing of data and IT incompatibilities.

FIGURE 1 illustrates a computer-implemented system 10 in accordance with the present invention. The system comprises one or more user computers 14 and 16, a network 18, a server 20, and a database 22. A user can access the server and the database through the user computer 14 and the

network 18 in a conventional manner, as one of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate.

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The user computer 14 can include a graphical user interface or other electronic medium to access data stored in database 22. In addition, the user computer can upload data to the database 22. Electronically accessible documents 24 provide instructions to facilitate analyzing the venture transaction. The documents 24 can also be accessed by the team. In this manner, data can be used in analyzing the proposed venture transaction. Preferably, a venture team comprising a number of users can upload and review data to facilitate a team work environment.

FIGURE 2 illustrates a flowchart 30 in accordance with the present invention. The flowchart 30 illustrates a method to analyze a proposed venture transaction. The method facilitates predicting IT capabilities of a new entity formed according to a proposed venture transaction. The system provides a computerized means to execute the method. In particular, the system provides access to the database 22 where a number of electronically accessible documents 24 are maintained. The documents 24 are provided in accordance with the method to facilitate analysis of the venture transaction.

The flowchart 30 provides a general template for use in conducting the analysis of the proposed venture transaction. Figure 2 can be reproduced on the user computer 14 through the graphical user interface. The underlined portions provide hyperlinks to different analysis and recommendation portions of the method. Documents to facilitate the analysis are accessible by clicking on one of the hyperlinks. In addition, the user can click on the hyperlink to upload data to the database. In this manner, data can be collected for the IT capabilities of each entity

and uploaded to the database. The uploaded data is then accessible to other analysis team members.

A step 34 relates to pre-preparation analysis. The pre-preparation analysis begins with the collection of data relating to the IT capabilities of the entities which are to form the new entity. A pre-preparation document 36 is available to facilitate in the data collection and analysis related to the pre-preparation analysis.

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FIGURE 3 illustrates the pre-preparation document 36. The pre-preparation document is an electronically accessible document. Analysis instructions for a preagreement action analysis 38, a deal and corporate vision analysis 40, a venture team transition plan analysis 42, and a governance structure analysis 44 are included. Further analysis instructions for these analysis instructions are provided with the indicated hyperlinks (underlined portions).

The pre-agreement action 38 instructions generally relate to analyzing and assessing the value of the IT capabilities impacted by the proposed venture transaction. The following table includes further instructions which may be accessed through the hyperlink to facilitate analyzing the pre-agreement action.

	Pre-Agreement Action - Table 1		
1	Deliverable	Description	Responsibility
12	Signed Letter of Intent	last deliverable in step	OGC, BP, NBD
18	Preliminary Catalogue of IT Assets		VT
10	List of IT guidelines & principles to BP		VT
1D	High level forecast of total IT cost	based on past experience; it is a 'bread box' or a 'bus'?	VT
Financial Metrics (Budget	Not Applicable		
Quality Metrics	If no Letter of Intent, STOP process		
Timing: Low Complexity	Not Applicable		
Timing: High Complexity	Not Applicable		
Communication Plans	Not Applicable		

Table 1 includes a deliverables portion, a deliverable description if necessary, an assignment of responsibility, a financial metric, a quality metric, a timing metric for a low complexity venture transaction, a timing metric for a high complexity venture transaction, and a communication plan.

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The deliverables portion includes a number of analysis headings. The analysis headings are hyperlinks to additional documentation to facilitate the analysis. For example, a "signed letter of intent" heading can be clicked on to transport the user to a file folder arrangement

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maintained on the database. An exemplary file folder arrangement 48 is generally shown in FIGURES 4 and 5.

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Figure 4 includes a number of documents to facilitate the analysis of each deliverable. Column 50 provides a navigation means. The navigation means provides hyperlinks to additional instructions and documents. As shown, the pre-agreement actions link was accessed.

Figure 5 includes further documents to facilitate the analysis under the "signed letter of intent" heading. The documents can include any number file types and characteristics. The files include instructions to facilitate the analysis. The user can download these files from the database or upload files for later use. Any member of the team preferably has access to the files. As such, the files can be examples of different letters of intent, a checklist of questions to ask regarding a letter of intent, a checklist of areas to cover in the letter or intent, and the like. Preferably, each deliverable heading includes a separate file folder arrangement.

Returning to table 1, the deliverable description provides a high level indication of the analysis to be conducted for each deliverable heading. The assignment of responsibility portion indicates a party responsible for different portions of the analysis. The responsible parts depend on whether the analysis is from the point of view of entity A or B. From the point of view of entity A, ADS is the group of people that are responsible for the development and maintenance of business support application software for company A. BP is the person from company A that will be responsible for the new entity once it has been formed. ITI is the group of people that are responsible for the computer infrastructure (hardware/networks) for company A. This may or may not be the same group as ADS. GTI is the person or

group of people that are responsible for protecting the intellectual property of company A. MP is a group of people that are subject matter experts on the application software that is affected by the formation of the new entity. subject matter experts from company A are matched with the subject matter experts from company B. OGC is the legal staffs of company A that are executing the legal agreements for the formation of the new entity. TMT is the group of people from both company A and company B that are empowered to make decisions regarding the formation of the new entity. VBP is the person from company A that is leading the venture This may or may not be the same as the BP. transaction. VIM is the person that will be responsible for the information technology of the new entity after its formation. This can be a person from company A, company B or someone from outside both companies that is brought in to perform this function. VI is the person from company A that is executing the process described in this patent. designations are common thought different portions of the analysis, as one will appreciate in light of the disclosure

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below.

The metrics provide guidance to the level of analysis and timing required. Each metric can optionally be a hyperlink to additional documentation in a file folder. The additional documentation can used to facilitate understanding the metric. The communication plan indicates when analysis teams should meet to discuss the analysis and in some cases to make a recommendation.

Returning to figure 3, the deal and corporate vision 40 instructions generally relate to analyzing the terms and conditions of the proposed venture transaction to determine the IT requirements necessary to support the IT capabilities of the new entity as determined in a corporate

vision. The following table includes further instructions which may be accessed through the hyperlink to facilitate analyzing the deal and corporate vision.

	Deal & Corporation Vision - Table 2		
	Deliverable	Description	Responsibility
2A	Completed business questionnaire containing Business Goal, Separation Plan, Ownership Percent, Business Principles	use LOI as input; business case VT, BP, NBD, w/vision; used to talk w/ MP & IT ITI Sponsor and to let IT audience understand; business timetable; for tax & legal implications; IT security, licenses, etc.	VT, BP, NBD, ITI
2D	Financial Principles	IT perspectives / inference; constitutes what IT ownership; genesis of final IT Services Agreement; sets expectations on how to operate	VT, BP, VIM, ITI
2E	Non-Disclosure Agreement	Confidentiality agreement; pre- contract; one-way to two-way agreement	VT, BP (two-way), OGC, VIM, NBD (one way)
2F	Documented IT Transition Principles	List of ways IT wants to do business (not financial)	VT, BP, ITI, VIM
2G	Personnel Principles	How employees are going to be handled; appendix to 2A	VT, BP, VIM
21	Assessment of Scope for IT	Beginning of list for IT Services Agreement; ITAs impacted; for IT Director to ask for MP; investigate & gather background on buyer; elevator speech; CROP	VT, ITI

2K	ITI representative	Need for scope of IT document	VT, ITI
Financial Metrics (Budget)	Not applicable		
Quality Metrics	If no Business case,		
Timing: Low Complexity	2-4 weeks		
Timing: High Complexity	2-4 weeks		
Communication plans	RYB Report to IT Management & BP		

The venture transaction plan 42 instructions generally relate to developing a venture transaction program charter and identifying scope, budgeting, and timing necessary to mange the proposed venture transaction. The following table includes further instructions which may be accessed through the hyperlink to facilitate analyzing the venture team transition plan.

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	Venture Team Trans	sition Plan - Table 3	
	Deliverable	Description	Responsibility
3A	Venture Team Transition process	Lay out rest of VT process; decide how to apply VT process (what deliverables); first draft of project plan; basis for funding	VT, ITI
3B	Venture Team Transition Schedule	VT plan for doing the deal; timing for doing the deal; psuedo-charter w/3A & 3C	VT, BP (buy-in), ITI
3C	Approved initial Budget for Delivering the Transition Plan	VT travel & IT consultant time to develop deliverables; not MP cost or executing deliverables; payment depends on the venture	VT (Low+.3FTE, Hi+.5 FTE, annually)
3D	Draft IT Services Agreement	Only attachments; catalogue of IT services; legal language; use templates; input for meeting w/potential IT Sponsor	VT, ITI
Financial Metrics (Budget)	If no VT Funding (3C), STOP process		
Quality Metrics	BP buy-in to 3A, 3B, 3C		
Timing: Low Complexity	1 week		
Timing: High Complexity	1-2 weeks		

The governance structure 44 instructions generally relate to identifying and assigning members of the venture

team responsibilities for implementing the tasks identified in the venture transaction plan. In addition, risk management and change control strategies are developed. The following table includes further instructions which may be accessed through the hyperlink to facilitate analyzing the governance structure.

	Transition Process Establish		
Governance Structure - Table 4			
	Deliverable	Description	Responsibility
42	Matched Pairs & TMT assigned w / contact info (e-mail address, phone number, pager number, etc.)	Roles & Responsibilities; used to level-set for Ford IT Sponsor; how work together; includes IT Finance	VT, IT Mgt, VIM, ITI
4B	Assigned ADS Project	New practice	VT, ADS Mgt
4C	Communication Strategy (all directions; Sr Mgt, MP, BP)	Who meets with whom, and when they meet	TMT, key people
4D	Risk Management & Change Control Strategy	Decide how to manage change; it is the process to deliver 5D; use change management forms; generic and venture-specific risks	VT, IT Sponsor, VIM
4E	Ford Business Project Leader Identified	Who is responsible (on PR); not on TMT or Executive Sponsor	0
4F	Venture Business Project Leader Identified	Counterpart to 4E; part of NewCo	VBP

4G	Ford IT Sponsor accepts & agrees to take responsibility	Selection driven by BP goals; includes R & R; presumption for assuming long run responsibility; still owns relation w / customer; approval for additional governance to #3 (charter)	VT, IT Mgt
Financial Metrics (Budget	Not Applicable		
Quality Metrics	If not ALL matched pairs, STOP process		
Timing: Low Complexity	2-4 weeks		
Timing: High Complexity	2-4 weeks		
Communication Plans	Gate Review	WHO: IT Sponsor, Exec Business Sponsor, VIM Manager WHAT: Understand the Transition Plan (reso Governance structure	, Venture IT Project deal, Approval of urces & funding),

The communication plan shown in table 4 notes a gate review. The gate review corresponds with the diamond shaped outlines shown in Figure 2. A recommendation to proceed with analysis of the proposed venture transaction is made at each gate review.

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The recommendation can comprise recommending to proceed with the analysis, recommending to re-do or collect additional data according to the one or more of the preceding documents, or stopping any further analysis of the proposed venture transaction. The recommendation is made by venture transaction team members or by upper management individuals. The recommendation is preferably based upon

the IT capabilities data collected from each entity and analyzed according to the documentation corresponding with the recommendation. Each recommendation portion includes a hyperlink to a file folder, like the one shown in Figures 4 and 5.

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Additional documentation and instructions can be included in the file folder to facilitate analyzing and making the recommendation. In addition, a who and what description can be provided to indicate the individual who should be involved with the recommendation and to indicate what the recommendation should cover.

A step 54 relates to the recommendation made after finishing the pre-preparation analysis step 34. The step 50 recommends whether an analysis team is formed and funded. A positive recommendation should occur before further analysis of the proposed venture transaction.

A step 56 relates to a complete preparation analysis if a positive recommendation is received in step A complete preparation document 58 is available to facilitate in the data collection and analysis, as shown in FIGURE 6. The complete preparation document 58 includes instructions to facilitate analyzing the proposed venture transaction. Analysis instructions 60 for analyzing an IT vision, a transition strategy, and a high level cost roadmap are provided. Further analysis instructions for these analysis instructions are accessible through the hyperlink. In general, the instructions relate to analyzing how IT would operate to support the proposed venture transaction and analyzing what a high level cost estimate would indicate for the IT services due on day-one for a full transaction. The following table includes further instructions which may be accessed through the hyperlink to facilitate analyzing

the information technology vision, the transition strategy, and the high level cost roadmap.

	Complete Preparation - Table 5		
	Deliverable	Description	Responsibility
5A	IT Vision & Transition Strategy for Day 1, post Day 1, and fully transitioned (WHAT)	General IT strategy; IT organizational planning; to communicate back to business; need NewCo business processes w/inference on timing; future support vision (for ADS and/or PTG)	VT, MP, ADS, ITI, TMT, IT Sponsor, Stakeholders
5в	Open IT Issues List		VT, MP, ADS, VIM
5C	High Level Funding Plan for Day 1 - approved (HOW MUCH)	Budget (line item) allocation; agreement on how to pay for IT services on Day 1; how much, who pay, when pay, and for what	VT, MP, ADS, BP, IT Sponsor, VIM, TMT, ITI
5D	Risk Management List	Identify generic & venture-specific risks & how to mitigate, potential issues; internal document; risks from IT viewpoint; output of 4D list	VT, MP
5E	Due Diligence Report	Research and leg work; questionnaire results; Lawton's 'Dig-A-Hole & Look' example	VT, MP, ITI, VIM

Financial Metrics (Budget)	If funding problems or lack of approval, elevate to Business Sponsor	
Quality Metrics	Adherence to timing, etc. CHECKPOINT with IT Sponsor	
Timing: Low Complexity	2-4 weeks	
Timing: High Complexity	6-12 weeks	
Communication Plans	Gate Review	WHO: It Sponsor, Executive Sponsor, Venture Business Partner, VIM / Sponsor WHAT: Approval of IT vision, Strategy / Timing / Phasing, Costs, Issues / Risks, Resourcing, NB High Level, Due Diligence Report

A step 64 relates to the recommendation made after finishing the complete preparation analysis step 54. The step 64 recommends whether transition costs and risks are attainable. The recommendation is preferably based upon the data collected from each entity and analyzed according to the documentation corresponding with the complete analysis instructions.

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A step 66 relates to an establish services and security analysis if a positive recommendation is made in step 64. A establish transition services and security document 68 is available to facilitate in the data collection and analysis, as shown in FIGURE 5. The document includes instructions to facilitate analyzing the proposed venture transaction. Analysis instructions for analyzing transition services and applications 70 is provided. Further analysis instructions are accessible through the hyperlink. In general, the instructions relate to analyzing

specific applications and services required to support the proposed venture transaction. The following table includes further instructions which may be accessed through the hyperlink to facilitate analyzing the transition services and applications.

Establish Transition Services & Security - Table 6			e 6
	Deliverable	Description	Responsibility
6A	IT Services Inventory	List of applications & infrastructure services; all we want to charge for - impacted by; IT Asset Inventory; stub used for input to 6B	VT, MP
6B	Disposition Plan (Costed, Multi-year)	Includes MP time (recoupable staff time) by application; remainder of info that was started in 6A	VT, MP, VIM, ADS
6C	Billing Summary (Post Day 1)	Cost of transition services (also from 6A); IT Finance (Tigue) can Finance not charge more; infrastructure included; usage based; MP could bill for time	VT, MP, IT Finance
6F	Security Control Plan	Includes Audit Compliance Strategy, Access Security Plan, and Record Retention Plan; GIS / ACR / CSM requirements	ITI, VT

6н	High-level Timing for Major Transition Events (WHEN)	Major events timetable; project plan for the deal; take care of unacceptable risks; includes billing codes, addresses (etc.)	VT, MP, ADS Program Mgt
63	Billing Process, Codes, and Addresses, etc. (identified & agreed)	Infrastructure and applications	IT Finance, VT, ITI
Financial Metrics (Budget)	If funding issues,		
Quality Metricts	If Gate Review not conducted, STOP process		
Timing: Low Complexity	2-4 weeks		
Timing: High Complexity	4-6 weeks		
Communication Plans	Gate Review	WHO: IT Sponsor, Exect Venture Business WHAT: Costs / billing timing / phasing, IT to basic terms of ser	forecast, services, Service Summary, agree

A step 74 relates to the recommendation made after finishing the establish services and security analysis. The step 74 recommends whether adequate transaction services and security are in-place. The recommendation is preferably based upon data collected from each entity and analyzes according to the documentation corresponding with the establish transition services and security document.

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A step 78 relates to a negotiate binding agreement analysis if a positive recommendation is made in step 74. A negotiate binding agreement document 80 is available to

facilitate in the data collection and analysis as shown in FIGURE 8. The document includes instructions to facilitate analyzing the proposed venture transaction. Analysis instructions for analyzing an IT services agreement 82 are provided. Further analysis instructions are accessible through the hyperlink. In general, the instructions relate to analyzing and creating a serve level agreement specifying the terms and conditions of the contract between the entities forming the new entity. The contract is relied upon by the entities to conduct the proposed venture transaction. The following table includes further instructions which may be accessed through the hyperlink to facilitate analyzing the developing the IT services agreement.

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	IT Negotiate Binding	Agreement - Table 7	
	Deliverable	Description	Responsibility
7A	IT Services Agreement (IT & OGC)	Who is long-run PTG?; Is PTG needed?; need governance model; must be agreed by all parties	VT, OGC, IT Sponsor, Smed, BP, VIM, CIO
78	IP Use / Transfer Agreement (FGTI) for software	IT-related IP; identify IP to transfer (e.g. plant floor systems must have license from FGTI; 6 Sigma software)	VT, FGTI, Smed, BP, VIM, CIO
Financial Metrics (Budget)	Not Applicable		
Quality Metrics	If IT Services Agreement not signed, STOP process		
Timing: Low Complexity	2-3 weeks		

Timing: High Complexity	6-8 weeks	
Communication Plans	Gate Review	Meeting with CIO

A step 84 relates to the recommendation made after finishing the negotiate binding agreement analysis. The step 84 recommends whether to execute the negotiated binding agreement. The recommendation is preferably based upon data collected from each entity and analyzes according to the documentation corresponding with the negotiate binding agreement document.

A step 86 relates to an implementation plan analysis if a positive recommendation is made in step 84. implementation plan document 90 is available to facilitate in the data collection and analysis, as shown in FIGURE 6. The document includes instructions to facilitate analyzing the proposed venture transaction. Analysis instructions for analyzing day-one launch requirements and work plan 92, dayone solutions 94, and closure of a venture team project 96 are provided. Further analysis instructions are accessible through the hyperlinks. In general, the instructions relate to analyzing development of an IT venture implementation project plan. Preferably, the project plan describes dayone in post day-one actions necessary to implement IT The instructions can also analyze execution of solutions. the IT solutions required to support the business processes of the proposed venture transaction, and to analyze a complete transition plan of IT services provided by identified "ADS" practices. The following tables include further instructions which may be accessible through the hyperlinks to facilitate analyzing the implementation plan.

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D	Day-1 Launch Requirements And Work Plan - Table 8			
	Deliverable	Description	Responsibility	
8A	Day-1 Launch Support Plan	Very detailed 'What has to Happen for Day 1'; hour-by-hour plan; business requirements	VT, MP, ADS, VIM,	
Financial Metrics (Budget)	Not Applicable			
Quality Metrics	If documents for turnover not complete, STOP process			
Timing: Low Complexity	1 week			
Timing: High Complexity	2 weeks			
Communication plans	Not Applicable			

Day 1 Solutions - Table 9			
- 110	Deliverable	Description	Responsibility
92	Successful Launch	All major issues solved; start of operations	VT, ADS, IT Sponsor
Financial Metrics (Budget)	If no billing commitment, STOP process		
Quality Metrics	Is the venture "Legal" (security, OGC Compliance		
Timing: Low Complexity	Not Applicable		
Timing: High Complexity	Not Applicable		

Communication Plans	Post Day #1 Status Report		
9в	Successful Launch	All major issues solved	VT, ADS, IT Sponsor
Financial Metrics (Budget)	Not Applicable		
Quality Metrics	Not Applicable		
Timing: Low Complexity	+ 100 days		
Communication Plans	Not Applicable		

Closure Of Venture Team Project - Table 10			
	Deliverable	Description	Responsibility
102	Lessons Learned	Collect throughout the process; collect at end of each venture; discuss at recurring roundtable	*VT, BP, ADS
108	Project Performance Chart (measure of scheduled vs. actual)	RYG Report; dashboard	*VT, IT Finance
100	Quality Understanding (measure of satisfiers vs. dissatisfiers	Meeting w/ all appropriate players; how did we do?; take action to fix	*VT, BP, VIM, ADS,
10E	Program Charter	Post Day 1 turnover vision & plan to ADS; occurs about Day 1 / post Day 1; verify that ADS gets it & knows what to do; the baton is passed to ADS	VT, *ADS, MP, VIM

10F	Report of on-going project status / health	Funding, requirements, program charter reflects all projects that are involved; formal turnover of responsibility to ADS	*VT, ADS
Financial Metrics (Budget)	Not Applicable		
Quality Metrics	If all VT post- project document complete, OK to CLOSE		
Timing: Low Complexity	Not Applicable		
Timing: High Complexity	Not Applicable		
Communication Plans	Gate Review	WHO: ADS, VTT, VIM, Venture Business, IT Sponsor, Executive Sponsor WHAT: Sign-off on Day 1 / Post Day 1, Program Charter, Objectives / Deliverables, Timing, Costs, Roles & Responsibilities	

A step 98 relates to the recommendation made after finishing the implementation analysis. The step 98 recommends whether to proceed with the proposed venture transaction according to the implementation plan. The implementation plan would then be used in transferring the information technology capabilities of each entity which are to comprise the information technology capabilities of the entity formed according to the proposed venture transaction.

A step 100 relates to a feedback process improvements analysis if a positive recommendation is made in step 98. A feedback process improvement document is available to facilitate the data collection and analysis, as shown in FIGURE 10. The document 106 includes instructions

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to facilitate analyzing the proposed venture transaction. Analysis instructions for analyzing on-going project implementation actions 106 is provided. Further analysis instructions are accessible through the hyperlink. In general, the instructions relate to analyzing services for support and maintenance as identified in the service level agreement which can be executed for the term of the contract. The following table includes further instructions which may be accessed through the hyperlink to facilitate analyzing the feedback process improvements.

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Chapter 11 - Implement Transition Strategy - Table 11

Services for support and maintenance identified in the Service Level Agreement will be executed for the term of the contract.

While the best mode for carrying out the invention has been described in detail, those familiar with the art to which this invention relates will recognize various alternative designs and embodiments for practicing the invention as defined by the following claims.